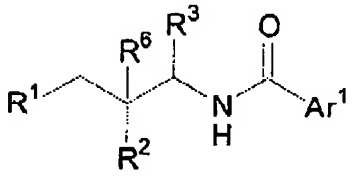
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compound of structural formula I:



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein;

R^1 is selected from:

~~(1)~~ (1) C_{1-10}alkyl,

~~(2)~~ (2) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, and

~~(3) cycloheteroalkyl,~~

~~(4)~~ (3) aryl, ~~and~~

~~(5) heteroaryl,~~

wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^a, and each cycloalkyl, ~~cycloheteroalkyl,~~ and aryl ~~and heteroaryl are~~ optionally is substituted ~~on a carbon or nitrogen atom~~ with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^2 is selected from:

(1) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,

(2) cycloheteroalkyl,

(3) aryl,

(4) heteroaryl,

(5) $-OR^d$,

(6) $-NR^cR^d$, and

(7) $-CO_2R^d$,

wherein each cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted on a carbon or nitrogen atom with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^3 is C_{1-4}alkyl, wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R^6 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-4}alkyl,
(3) C_{2-4}alkenyl,
(4) C_{2-4}alkynyl,
(5) $-OR^d$,
(6) halogen,
(7) -CN,
(8) $-NR^cR^d$,

wherein alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl are optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a

Ar^1 is ~~selected from:~~

~~(1)~~ aryl, ~~and~~

~~(2) heteroaryl,~~

~~each~~ optionally substituted ~~on the carbon or nitrogen~~ with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^c$,
(2) $-NR^cS(O)_mR^d$,
(3) $-NO_2$,
(4) halogen,
(5) $-S(O)_mR^c$,
(6) $-SR^c$,
(7) $-S(O)_2OR^c$,
(8) $-S(O)_mNR^cR^d$,
(9) $-NR^cR^d$,
(10) $-O(CR^eR^f)_nNR^cR^d$,
(11) $-C(O)R^c$,
(12) $-CO_2R^c$,

(13) $-CO_2(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^cR^d$,
(14) $-OC(O)R^c$,
(15) -CN,
(16) $-C(O)NR^cR^d$,
(17) $-NR^cC(O)R^d$,
(18) $-OC(O)NR^cR^d$,
(19) $-NR^cC(O)OR^d$,
(20) $-NR^cC(O)NR^cR^d$,
(21) $-CR^c(N-OR^d)$,
(22) CF_3,
(23) $-OCF_3$,
(24) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(25) cycloheteroalkyl, and
(26) oxo;

each R^b is independently selected from:

(1) R^a,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(4) cycloheteroalkyl,
(5) aryl,
(6) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(7) heteroaryl, and
(8) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with oxo, and wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with $-OR^c$, NR^cR^d, or $-C(O)R^c$;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,
(4) C_{2-10}alkynyl,
(5) cycloalkyl,
(6) cycloalkyl-C_{1-10}alkyl,
(7) cycloheteroalkyl,

(8) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl;
(9) aryl,
(10) heteroaryl,
(11) aryl-C_{1-10}alkyl, and
(12) heteroaryl-C_{1-10}alkyl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^g,
or two -OR^c groups together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^g,
each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;
R^e and R^f are independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,
(4) C_{2-10}alkynyl,
(5) cycloalkyl,
(6) cycloalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl,
(7) cycloheteroalkyl,
(8) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl,
(9) aryl,
(10) heteroaryl,
(11) arylC_{1-10} alkyl, and
(12) heteroarylC_{1-10} alkyl, or

R^e and R^f together with the carbon to which they are attached form a ring of 5 to 7 members containing 0-2 heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen;
each R^g is independently selected from

(1) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(2) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(3) cycloheteroalkyl,
(4) aryl,
(5) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(6) heteroaryl,
(7) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,

(8) -$S(O)_mR^e$,
(9) -$C(O)R^e$,
(10) -CO_2R^e,
(11) -$CO_2(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^eR^f$, and
(12) -$C(O)NR^eR^f$;

each R^h is independently selected from:

(1) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(2) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(3) cycloheteroalkyl,
(4) aryl,
(5) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(6) heteroaryl,
(7) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(8) -OR^e,
(9) -$NR^eS(O)_mR^f$,
(10) -$S(O)_mR^e$,
(11) -SR^e,
(12) -$S(O)_2OR^e$,
(13) -$S(O)_mNR^eR^f$,
(14) -NR^eR^f,
(15) -$O(CR^eR^f)_nNR^eR^f$,
(16) -$C(O)R^e$,
(17) -CO_2R^e,
(18) -$CO_2(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^eR^f$,
(19) -$OC(O)R^e$,
(20) -CN,
(21) -$C(O)NR^eR^f$,
(22) -$NR^eC(O)R^f$,
(23) -$OC(O)NR^eR^f$,
(24) -$NR^eC(O)OR^f$,
(25) -$NR^eC(O)NR^eR^f$,
(26) CF_3, and
(27) -OCF_3,

m is selected from 1 and 2; and
n is selected from 1, 2, and 3;

provided that when R^1 and R^2 are unsubstituted aryl or unsubstituted heteroaryl, and R^3 is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl, then Ar^1 is substituted with at least one R^b substituent; and

provided that when R^1 is selected from the group consisting of unsubstituted phenyl, *para*-chlorophenyl or *para*–methoxy phenyl, R^2 is unsubstituted phenyl, and R^3 is $-CH_3$, then Ar^1 is not unsubstituted phenyl, *ortho*—CO_2H monosubstituted phenyl, or 3,4-dimethoxy phenyl.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 1 wherein:
R^1 is selected from:

~~(1)~~ (1) C_{1-10}alkyl,
~~(2)~~ (2) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, and
~~(3) cycloheteroalkyl,~~
~~(4)~~ (3) aryl, ~~and~~
~~(5) heteroaryl,~~

wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^a, and each cycloalkyl, ~~cycloheteroalkyl,~~ and aryl ~~and heteroaryl are~~ optionally is substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^2 is selected from:

(1) C_{3-10}cycloalkyl,
(2) cycloheteroalkyl,
(3) aryl,
(4) heteroaryl,
(5) $-OR^d$,
(6) $-NR^cR^d$, and
(7) $-CO_2R^d$,

wherein each cycloalkyl, ~~and~~ cycloheteroalkyl, aryl, and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with one, two, three or four substituents independently selected from R^b;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 3 (currently amended). The compound according to Claim 2 wherein:

Ar^1 is selected from:

~~(1)~~ (1) phenyl, and

~~(2)~~ (2) naphthyl,

~~(3) thienyl,~~

~~(4) furanyl,~~

~~(5) pyrrolyl,~~

~~(6) oxazolyl,~~

~~(7) isoxazolyl,~~

~~(8) 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl,~~

~~(9) 1,2,5-thiadiazolyl,~~

~~(10) thiazolyl,~~

~~(11) pyrazolyl,~~

~~(12) triazolyl,~~

~~(13) tetrazolyl,~~

~~(14) benzothienyl,~~

~~(15) benzofuranyl,~~

~~(16) benzoxazolyl,~~

~~(17) benzimidazolyl,~~

~~(18) benzothiazolyl,~~

~~(19) indanyl,~~

~~(20) indenyl,~~

~~(21) indolyl,~~

~~(22) imidazo[1,2-a]pyridinyl,~~

~~(23) β-carbolinyl,~~

~~(24) 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-β-carbolinyl,~~

~~(25) tetrahydronaphthyl,~~

~~(26) 4,5,6,7-tetrahydroindazolyl,~~

~~(27) 2,3-dihydrobenzofuranyl,~~

~~(28) dihydrobenzopyranyl,~~

~~(29) 1,4-benzodioxanyl,~~

~~(30) pyridinyl,~~

~~(31) pyrimidinyl,~~

~~(32) pyrazinyl,~~
~~(33) quinolinyl,~~
~~(34) isoquinolinyl,~~
~~(35) quinazolonyl,~~
~~(36) quinazolinyl,~~
~~(37) 1,8 naphthyridinyl,~~
~~(38) 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1,8 naphthyridinyl,~~
~~(39) pyrido[3,2-b]pyridinyl,~~
~~(40) pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidinyl,~~
~~(41) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidinyl,~~
~~(42) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidonyl,~~
~~(43) benzopyrimidinyl,~~
~~(44) imidazolyl, and~~
~~(45) imidazolonyl,~~

each optionally substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 3 wherein:
R^3 is C_{1-4}alkyl, optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;
R^6 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) methyl,
(3) hydroxyl,
(4) halogen, and
(5) -CN,

wherein methyl is optionally substituted with one to three R^a substituents;
Ar^1 is selected from:

(1) phenyl, and
(2) naphthyl,
~~(3) thienyl,~~
~~(4) isoxazolyl,~~
~~(5) 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl,~~
~~(6) thiazolyl,~~

~~(7) pyrazolyl,~~
~~(8) triazolyl,~~
~~(9) tetrazolyl,~~
~~(10) benzofuranyl,~~
~~(11) benzoxazolyl,~~
~~(12) benzimidazolyl,~~
~~(13) benzothiazolyl,~~
~~(14) imidazo[1,2-a]pyridinyl,~~
~~(15) 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-β-carbolinyl,~~
~~(16) 4,5,6,7-tetrahydroindazolyl,~~
~~(17) pyridinyl,~~
~~(18) pyrimidinyl,~~
~~(19) pyrazinyl,~~
~~(20) quinolinyl,~~
~~(21) isoquinolinyl,~~
~~(22) quinazolonyl,~~
~~(23) quinazolinyl,~~
~~(24) 1,8-naphthyridinyl,~~
~~(25) 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1,8-naphthyridinyl,~~
~~(26) pyrido[3,2-b]pyridinyl,~~
~~(27) pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidinyl,~~
~~(28) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidinyl,~~
~~(29) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidonyl,~~
~~(30) benzopyrimidinyl,~~
~~(31) imidazolyl, and~~
~~(32) imidazolonyl,~~

each optionally substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^c$,
(2) halogen,
(3) $-S(O)_mR^c$,
(4) $-SR^c$,
(5) $-S(O)_2OR^c$,

(6) $-S(O)_mNR^cR^d$,
(7) $-NR^cR^d$,
(8) $-C(O)R^c$,
(9) $-CO_2R^c$,
(10) -CN,
(11) $-C(O)NR^cR^d$,
(12) CF_3,
(13) $-OCF_3$,
(14) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(15) cycloheteroalkyl, and
(16) oxo;

each R^b is independently selected from:

(1) R^a,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) cycloheteroalkyl,
(4) aryl,
(5) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(6) heteroaryl, and
(7) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, heteroaryl are optionally substituted with oxo, and wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with $-OR^c$, NR^cR^d, or $-C(O)R^c$;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) cycloalkyl,
(4) cycloheteroalkyl,
(5) aryl,
(6) heteroaryl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,
or two $-OR^c$ groups together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,
each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 4 wherein:

R^1 is phenyl, optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b; and

R^2 is ~~are~~ independently selected from:

(1) phenyl, and

(2) pyridyl,

~~each~~ optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^3 is C_{1-4}alkyl, wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

R^6 is selected from:

(1) hydrogen,

(2) methyl,

(3) hydroxyl,

(4) halogen, and

(5) –CN;

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^c$,

(2) halogen,

(3) $-S(O)_mR^c$,

(4) $-NR^cR^d$,

(5) $-C(O)R^c$,

(6) $-CO_2R^c$, and

(7) oxo;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 6 (original): The compound according to Claim 5 wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from:

(1) phenyl,

(2) 4-fluorophenyl,

(3) 2-chlorophenyl,

(4) 3-chlorophenyl,

(5) 4-chlorophenyl,

(6) 4-cyanophenyl,
(7) 4-methylphenyl,
(8) 4-isopropylphenyl,
(9) 4-biphenyl,
(10) 4-bromophenyl,
(11) 4-iodophenyl,
(12) 2,4-dichlorophenyl, and
(13) 2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 7 (original): The compound according to Claim 6 wherein:
R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from phenyl and 4-chlorophenyl;
R^3 is methyl, wherein methyl is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^a;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A compound selected from:

~~(1) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl) benzofuran-2-carboxamide;~~
~~(2)~~ (1) *N*-[2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-3-chloro-2-naphthamide;
~~(3) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl) isoxazole-5-carboxamide;~~
~~(4) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrido[3,2-b]pyridine-2-carboxamide;~~
~~(5) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl) pyrazole-3-carboxamide;~~
~~(6) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl) thiazole-5-carboxamide;~~
~~(7) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-nicotinamide;~~
~~(8)~~ (2) 2-(1-tetrazolyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
~~(9)~~ (3) 3-(1-tetrazolyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
~~(10)~~ (4) 4-(1-tetrazolyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
~~(11) 5-methyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-thiazole-4-carboxamide;~~
~~(12)~~ (5) 2-phenyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
~~(13) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrazine-2-carboxamide;~~
~~(14)~~ (6) 3-(1-(3,5-dimethyl-pyrazolyl))-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
~~(15)~~ (7) 4-(1-(pyrrolidin-2-one))-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;
~~(16)~~ (8) 3-(1-(imidazolidin-2-one))-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(17)~~ (9) 4-phenyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(18) 6-bromo N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl) picolinamide;~~

~~(19) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) isonicotinamide;~~

~~(20) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) picolinamide;~~

~~(21) 4-methyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) 1,2,5-oxadiazole-3-carboxamide;~~

~~(22) 3-(1-(pyrrolidin-2-one)) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl) benzamide;~~

~~(23) 2-bromo-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl) isonicotinamide;~~

~~(24)~~ (10) 3-phenyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(25) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) pyrimidine-4-carboxamide;~~

~~(26)~~ (11) 4-(1-pyrazolyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(27)~~ (12) 2-(1-pyrazolyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(28) 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) carbazole-3-carboxamide;~~

~~(29) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) 1H-quinazolin-2-one-4-carboxamide;~~

~~(30) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) benzoxazole-2-carboxamide;~~

~~(31) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidine-6-carboxamide;~~

~~(32) 2,4-dimethyl N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidine-6-carboxamide;~~

~~(33)~~ (13) 4-(1-piperidinyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(34) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) pyrimidine-5-carboxamide;~~

~~(35) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) pyrido(1,2-a)pyrimidine-4-one-5-carboxamide;~~

~~(36) 4,5,6,7 tetrahydro N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) indazole-3-carboxamide;~~

~~(37) 5-fluoro N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) benzimidazole-2-carboxamide;~~

~~(38) 5-phenyl N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) pyrazole-3-carboxamide;~~

~~(39) 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) 1,8-naphthyridine-7-carboxamide;~~

~~(40) 1-methyl-3-ethyl N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) pyrazole-5-carboxamide;~~

~~(41) 1-methyl-3-propyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) pyrazole-5-carboxamide;~~

~~(42) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) quinoline-5-carboxamide;~~

~~(43) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) imidazo(1,2-a)pyridine-2-carboxamide;~~

~~(44) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) quinoline-4-carboxamide;~~

~~(45) 4-bromo N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) nicotinamide;~~

~~(46) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl) isoquinoline-8-carboxamide;~~

~~(47) 3-bromo N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) picolinamide;~~

~~(48) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl) 1-methylpropyl) isoquinoline-5-carboxamide;~~

~~(49)~~ (14) 4-(2-formyl-phenyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(50)~~ (15) 4-(2-hydroxymethyl-phenyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(51)~~ (16) 4-(2-aminophenyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(52) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-2(3H)-imidazolone-4-carboxamide;~~

~~(53) 3-(1-tetrazolyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-isonicotinamide;~~

~~(54) 3,4-(ethylenedioxy)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-thiophene-2-carboxamide;~~

~~(55) 1-isopropyl-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-pyrazole-4-carboxamide;~~

~~(56) 5-bromo-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-picolinamide;~~

~~(57) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-1,8-naphthyridine-2-carboxamide;~~

~~(58) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzothiazole-2-carboxamide;~~

~~(59) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzimidazole-2-carboxamide;~~

~~(60)~~ (17) 5-chloro-2-(2-(1-pyrrolyl)ethyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(61)~~ (18) 2-(2-phenylethyl)-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(62)~~ (19) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-naphthylene-2-carboxamide;

~~(63) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-quinoline-5-carboxamide;~~

~~(64)~~ (20) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-naphthylene-1-carboxamide;

~~(65)~~ (21) N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(66)~~ (22) 2-chloro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(67)~~ (23) 3-chloro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(68)~~ (24) 4-chloro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-benzamide;

~~(69) 3,5-dichloro-N-(2,3-bis(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl)-isonicotinamide;~~

~~(70) *N*-[2-(3-pyridyl)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-benzamide;~~

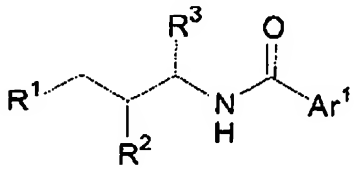
~~(71) *N*-[2-(2-pyridyl)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-benzamide;~~

~~(72) *N*-[2-(4-pyridyl)-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-methylpropyl]-benzamide; and~~

~~(73) *N*-[3-(3-chloro-2-pyridyl)-2-phenyl-1-methylpropyl]-benzamide;~~

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A compound of structural formula IA:



(IA)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein;

R^1 is ~~selected from:~~

~~(1)~~ aryl, ~~and~~

~~(2) heteroaryl,~~

~~wherein aryl and heteroaryl are~~ optionally substituted ~~on the carbon or nitrogen~~ with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^2 is selected from:

(1) aryl, and

(2) heteroaryl,

wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted on the carbon or nitrogen with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;

R^3 is C_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

Ar^1 is ~~selected from:~~

~~(1)~~ aryl, ~~and~~

~~(2) heteroaryl,~~

~~each~~ optionally substituted on the carbon or nitrogen with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^c$,

(2) $-NR^cS(O)_mR^d$,

(3) $-NO_2$,

(4) halogen,

(5) $-S(O)_mR^c$,

(6) $-SR^c$,

(7) $-S(O)_2OR^c$,

(8) $-S(O)_mNR^cR^d$,

(9) $-NR^cR^d$,

(10) $-O(CR^eR^f)_nNR^cR^d$,

(11) $-C(O)R^c$,

(12) $-CO_2R^c$,

(13) $-CO_2(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^cR^d$,
(14) $-OC(O)R^c$,
(15) -CN,
(16) $-C(O)NR^cR^d$,
(17) $-NR^cC(O)R^d$,
(18) $-OC(O)NR^cR^d$,
(19) $-NR^cC(O)OR^d$,
(20) $-NR^cC(O)NR^cR^d$,
(21) $-CR^c(N-OR^d)$,
(22) CF_3,
(23) $-OCF_3$,
(24) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(25) cycloheteroalkyl, and
(26) oxo;

each R^b is independently selected from:

(1) R^a,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(4) cycloheteroalkyl,
(5) aryl,
(6) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(7) heteroaryl, and
(8) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with oxo, and wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with $-OR^c$, NR^cR^d, or $-C(O)R^c$;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,
(4) C_{2-10}alkynyl,
(5) cycloalkyl,
(6) cycloalkyl-C_{1-10}alkyl,
(7) cycloheteroalkyl,

(8) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl;
(9) aryl,
(10) heteroaryl,
(11) aryl-C_{1-10}alkyl, and
(12) heteroaryl-C_{1-10}alkyl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,
or two -OR^c groups together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,
each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;
R^e and R^f are independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) C_{2-10} alkenyl,
(4) C_{2-10}alkynyl,
(5) cycloalkyl,
(6) cycloalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl,
(7) cycloheteroalkyl,
(8) cycloheteroalkyl-C_{1-10} alkyl,
(9) aryl,
(10) heteroaryl,
(11) arylC_{1-10} alkyl, and
(12) heteroarylC_{1-10} alkyl, or

R^e and R^f together with the carbon to which they are attached form a ring of 5 to 7 members containing 0-2 heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen;
each Rg is independently selected from

(1) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(2) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(3) cycloheteroalkyl,
(4) aryl,
(5) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(6) heteroaryl,
(7) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,

(8) $-S(O)_mR^e$,
(9) $-C(O)R^e$,
(10) $-CO_2R^e$,
(11) $-CO_2(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^eR^f$, and
(12) $-C(O)NR^eR^f$;

each R^h is independently selected from:

(1) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(2) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(3) cycloheteroalkyl,
(4) aryl,
(5) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(6) heteroaryl,
(7) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(8) $-OR^e$,
(9) $-NR^eS(O)_mR^f$,
(10) $-S(O)_mR^e$,
(11) $-SR^e$,
(12) $-S(O)_2OR^e$,
(13) $-S(O)_mNR^eR^f$,
(14) $-NR^eR^f$,
(15) $-O(CR^eR^f)_nNR^eR^f$,
(16) $-C(O)R^e$,
(17) $-CO_2R^e$,
(18) $-CO_2(CR^eR^f)_nCONR^eR^f$,
(19) $-OC(O)R^e$,
(20) $-CN$,
(21) $-C(O)NR^eR^f$,
(22) $-NR^eC(O)R^f$,
(23) $-OC(O)NR^eR^f$,
(24) $-NR^eC(O)OR^f$,
(25) $-NR^eC(O)NR^eR^f$,
(26) CF_3, and
(27) $-OCF_3$,

m is selected from 1 and 2; and
n is selected from 1, 2, and 3;

provided that when R^1 and R^2 are unsubstituted aryl or unsubstituted heteroaryl, and R^3 is C_{1-4} alkyl, Ar^1 is substituted with at least one R^b substituent; and

provided that when R^1 is selected from the group consisting of unsubstituted phenyl, *para*-chlorophenyl or *para*–methoxy phenyl, R^2 is unsubstituted phenyl, and R^3 is $-CH_3$, Ar^1 is not unsubstituted phenyl, *ortho*—CO_2H monosubstituted phenyl, or 3,4-dimethoxy phenyl.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 9 wherein:
R^1 is selected from phenyl and naphthyl, optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;
and R^2 ~~are~~ is ~~independently~~ selected from:

(1) phenyl,
(2) naphthyl, and
(3) pyridyl,

~~each~~ optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 10 wherein:
Ar^1 is selected from:

(1) phenyl, and
(2) naphthyl,
~~(3) thienyl,~~
~~(4) furanyl,~~
~~(5) pyrrolyl,~~
~~(6) oxazolyl,~~
~~(7) isoxazolyl,~~
~~(8) 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl,~~
~~(9) 1,2,5-thiadiazolyl,~~
~~(10) thiazolyl,~~
~~(11) pyrazolyl,~~

~~(12) triazolyl,~~
~~(13) tetrazolyl,~~
~~(14) benzothienyl,~~
~~(15) benzofuranyl,~~
~~(16) benzoxazolyl,~~
~~(17) benzimidazolyl,~~
~~(18) benzothiazolyl,~~
~~(19) indanyl,~~
~~(20) indenyl,~~
~~(21) indolyl,~~
~~(22) imidazo[1,2-a]pyridinyl,~~
~~(23) β carbolinyl,~~
~~(24) 5,6,7,8 tetrahydro β carbolinyl,~~
~~(25) tetrahydronaphthyl,~~
~~(26) 4,5,6,7-tetrahydroindazolyl,~~
~~(27) 2,3-dihydrobenzofuranyl,~~
~~(28) dihydrobenzopyranyl,~~
~~(29) 1,4 benzodioxanyl,~~
~~(30) pyridinyl,~~
~~(31) pyrimidinyl,~~
~~(32) pyrazinyl,~~
~~(33) quinolinyl,~~
~~(34) isoquinolinyl,~~
~~(35) quinazolonyl,~~
~~(36) quinazolinyl,~~
~~(37) 1,8-naphthyridinyl,~~
~~(38) 1,2,3,4 tetrahydro 1,8 naphthyridinyl,~~
~~(39) pyrido[3,2-b]pyridinyl,~~
~~(40) pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidinyl,~~
~~(41) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidinyl,~~
~~(42) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidonyl,~~
~~(43) benzopyrimidinyl,~~
~~(44) imidazolyl, and~~

~~(45) imidazolonyl,~~

each optionally substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The compound of claim 11 wherein:

R^3 is C_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;

Ar^1 is selected from:

(1) phenyl, and

(2) naphthyl,

~~(3) thienyl,~~

~~(4) isoxazolyl,~~

~~(5) 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl,~~

~~(6) thiazolyl,~~

~~(7) pyrazolyl,~~

~~(8) triazolyl,~~

~~(9) tetrazolyl,~~

~~(10) benzofuranyl,~~

~~(11) benzoxazolyl,~~

~~(12) benzimidazolyl,~~

~~(13) benzothiazolyl,~~

~~(14) imidazo[1,2-a]pyridinyl,~~

~~(15) 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-β-carbolinyl,~~

~~(16) 4,5,6,7-tetrahydroindazolyl,~~

~~(17) pyridinyl,~~

~~(18) pyrimidinyl,~~

~~(19) pyrazinyl,~~

~~(20) quinolinyl,~~

~~(21) isoquinolinyl,~~

~~(22) quinazolonyl,~~

~~(23) quinazolinyl,~~

~~(24) 1,8-naphthyridinyl,~~

~~(25) 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1,8-naphthyridinyl,~~

~~(26) pyrido[3,2-b]pyridinyl,~~
~~(27) pyrazolo[2,3-a]pyrimidinyl,~~
~~(28) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidinyl,~~
~~(29) pyrido[1,2-a]pyrimidonyl,~~
~~(30) benzopyrimidinyl,~~
~~(31) imidazolyl, and~~
~~(32) imidazolonyl,~~

each optionally substituted with one, two, or three groups independently selected from R^b;

each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) $-OR^c$,
(2) halogen,
(3) $-S(O)_mR^c$,
(4) $-SR^c$,
(5) $-S(O)_2OR^c$,
(6) $-S(O)_mNR^cR^d$,
(7) $-NR^cR^d$,
(8) $-C(O)R^c$,
(9) $-CO_2R^c$,
(10) -CN,
(11) $-C(O)NR^cR^d$,
(12) CF_3,
(13) $-OCF_3$,
(14) C_{3-8}cycloalkyl,
(15) cycloheteroalkyl, and
(16) oxo;

each R^b is independently selected from:

(1) R^a,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) cycloheteroalkyl,
(4) aryl,
(5) arylC_{1-4}alkyl,
(6) heteroaryl, and
(7) heteroarylC_{1-4}alkyl,

wherein alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloheteroalkyl, heteroaryl are optionally substituted with oxo, and

wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted with -OR^c, NR^cR^d, or -$C(O)R^c$;

R^c and R^d are independently selected from:

(1) hydrogen,
(2) C_{1-10}alkyl,
(3) cycloalkyl,
(4) cycloheteroalkyl,
(5) aryl,
(6) heteroaryl, or

R^c and R^d together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,
or two -OR^c groups together with the atom(s) to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring of 4 to 7 members containing 0-2 additional heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-Rg,
each R^c and R^d may be unsubstituted or substituted with one to three substituents selected from R^h;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The compound according to Claim 12, wherein:
R^1 is phenyl optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b; and
R^2 ~~are independently~~ is selected from:

(1) phenyl, and
(2) pyridyl,

~~each~~ optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^b;
R^3 is C_{1-4}alkyl, wherein alkyl is optionally substituted with one to four substituents independently selected from R^a;
each R^a is independently selected from:

(1) -OR^c,
(2) halogen,
(3) -$S(O)_mR^c$,
(4) -NR^cR^d,
(5) -$C(O)R^c$,
(6) -CO_2R^c, and
(7) oxo;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 14 (original): The compound according to Claim 13, wherein:
R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from:

(1) phenyl,
(2) 4-fluorophenyl,
(3) 2-chlorophenyl,
(4) 3-chlorophenyl,
(5) 4-chlorophenyl,
(6) 4-cyanophenyl,
(7) 4-methylphenyl,
(8) 4-isopropylphenyl,
(9) 4-biphenyl,
(10) 4-bromophenyl,
(11) 4-iodophenyl,
(12) 2,4-dichlorophenyl, and
(13) 2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 15 (original): The compound according to Claim 14 wherein:
R^1 and R^2 are independently selected from phenyl and 4-chlorophenyl;
R^3 is methyl, wherein methyl is optionally substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from R^a;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 16 (original): A composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 17 (original): A composition comprising a compound according to Claim 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 18 (original): A method of preventing obesity in a person at risk for obesity comprising administration to said person of about 0.001 to about 100 mg/kg of a compound according to Claim 1.

Claim 19 (original): A method of preventing obesity in a person at risk for obesity comprising administration to said person of about 0.001 to about 100 mg/kg of a compound according to Claim 8.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A method of treating ~~a disease mediated by the Cannabinoid-1 receptor~~ an eating disorder associated with excessive food intake selected from obesity, bulimia nervosa and compulsive eating disorders comprising administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 to a patient in need of such treatment.

Claim 21 (canceled).

Claim 22 (canceled).

Claim 23 (canceled).

Claim 24 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 20 ~~23~~ wherein the eating disorder associated with excessive food intake is obesity.

Claims 25-30 (cancelled).

Claim 31 (new): A method of treating an eating disorder associated with excessive food intake selected from obesity, bulimia nervosa and compulsive eating disorders comprising administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 8 to a patient in need of such treatment.

Claim 32 (new): The method according to Claim 31 wherein the eating disorder associated with excessive food intake is obesity.